THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1975

F.B.I. Chief Asks Accounting in Harassment of King

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (AP) —Clarence M. Kelley, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said today that those bureau policy-makers responsible for the harassment of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. should be "brought to account."

Mr. Kelley told the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that he believed responsibility should be borne by the officials who conceived of the campaign against the civil rights leader and that agents who merely carried out their orders should not be punished.

Witnesses have said the F.B.I.'s efforts to discredit Dr. King were largely the result of a personal vendetta by J. Edgar Hoover, the late director

However, Mr. Kelley said that not all of those responsible were dead. He did not make clear to whom he was referring

He also said that the bureau had retained the tapes of Dr King's conversations obtained through a total of 16 telephone taps and eight electronic bugs and had no plans to destroy them.

Senator Frank Church, of Idaho, chairman of the committee, said he could see no reason for the F.B.I. to retain the tapes so many years after Dr King's murder in 1968. But Mr. Kelley said they could not be destroyed while the Justice Department was considering whether to reopen the investigation of the assassination.

Question on Tapes

The existence of the tapes was raised by Senator Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona, who asked if it was possible for committee members to review the tapes "to determine ourselves whether Mr. Hoover was off on a wild goose chase or actually had something."

Mr. Hoover told associates that he suspected Dr. King of associating with a known Communist who the F.B.I. chief feared might influence him and the civil rights movement.

Witnesses have said that information received from the bugs and the taps concerning alleged sexual misconduct by Dr. King was used by the F.B.I. to write anonymous letters to Dr. King that the black leader considered a suggestion to commit suicide.

Mr. Kelley also urged the committee to seek a legal Congressional charter for the F.B.I. laying out the limits of its jurisdiction. He urged the creation of a Congressional oversight committee to monitor the results of F.B.I. investigations and to keep the bureau within agreed-upon guidelines.

Temper of the Times

Mr. Kelley said he believed most of the thousands of abuses documented by the committees of the intelligence-gathering agencies could be understood by the temper of the 1950's and 60's and by the need of the F.B.I. to react to curb the violent acts of revolutionary terror that were occurring throughout the country.

Meanwhile, committee sources said that staff members of the Senate panel had been ordered to swear they were not the source for news articles linking President Kennedy, a friend and organized crime.

The articles said President Kennedy had received 70 to 80 telephone calls from a California woman, Judith Campbell, while he was in the White House, some from the home of the late Illinois crime figure, Sam Giancana.

The woman's alleged association with Mr. Kennedy in the eary 1960's coincided with the period when organized crime figures were helping the Central Intelligence Agency with plots to assassinate Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba.

The committee's report on the plots said that the last contact between the White House and "the President's friend" occurred a few hours after Mr. Kennedy had had lunch with Mr. Hoover.